Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI TO RICHARD F. DOWNS PRIORITY GORDON A. FRIESEN, INT., INC. GAFINT, WASHINGTON DC INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2249 USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS THESSALONIKI 0124

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS : BGEN, GR

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

SUBJECT: CONSULTING AND A-E CONTRACT FOR THESSALONIKI HOSPITAL

REF : (A) YOUR TEL OF FEB 13, (B) THESSALONIKI 115

1. FOLLOWING ARE REPLIES TO QUESTIONS POSED IN YOUR CABLE:

QUESTION 1: ACCORDING US EMBASSY ATHENS, ELIAS SKROUBELOS IS SOLE OWNER OF ARCH-ENGR FIRM ESTABLISHED IN ATHENS 1949.

SKROUBELOS CONSIDERED ONE OF BEST IN FIELD AND HAS COMPLETED OVER 50 STUDIES. RECEIVED FIRST OR SECOND AWARDS IN FIVE PAN-HELLENIC ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITIONS INCLUDING FIRST AWARD FOR PROJECT AT THESSALONIKI UNIVERSITY. SKROUBELOS CLAIMS ANNUAL TURNOVER OF APPROX DOLLARS 330 THOUSAND. ACCORDING TO BANK REPORT, FIRM HAD 1972 WORKING CAPITAL OF DOLLARS 130 THOUSAND AND RECEIVED FOR SERVICES DOLLARS 250,000 IN 1970 AND DOLLARS 297.000 8, 1971. GOOD REPUTATION AND BANK REFERENCES.

QUESTIONS 2-3: CONGEN DISCUSSED BOTH CONSULTING AND A-E CONTRACTS WITH MR. KAKOULIDES OF TECHNICAL SERVICES OFFICE OF THESSALONIKI UNIVERSITY FEBRUARY 14. HE STATES THAT THERE NO OBJECTION TO SEPARATE FRIESEN PROPOSAL IN CAPACITY OF CONSULTANT AND PARTICIPATION WITH GREEK AE FIRM. AWARD HOWEVER WILL NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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BE MADE IN BOTH CAPACITIES.

- 2. KAKOULIDES CONFIRMED THAT COPY OF FRIESEN LETTER FORWARDED BY CONGEN MEETS CRITERIA FOR LETTER OF INTEREST BUT MUST STILL BE REVIEWED BY COMMITTEE. ORIGINAL WITH QUALIFYING INFORMATION ON FIRM NOT YET RECEIVED. UNIVERSITY ALSO REQUESTS PRIOR TO FEB 24 DEADLINE QUOTATION ON FRIESEN CONSULTING COMMISSION EXPRESSED AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL COST OF TECHNICAL A-E SURVEY. TECHNICAL SURVEY "UNOFFICIALLY" BUDGETED AT APPROX DOLLARS 3 MILLION AND TOTAL PROJECT AT DOLLARS 70 MILLION. BID DEADLINE FOR A-E SURVEY IS MARCH 5 AND OPEN ONLY TO GREEK FIRMS. FOREIGN FIRMS WELCOME TO COOPERRATE WITH GREEK PRIME CONTRACTOR, BUT FOREIGN CURRENCY COST WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN AWARD OF CONTRACT.
- 3. RECOMMENDATION: SUGGEST FRIESEN CONSIDER SEPARATE PROPOSALS IN BOTH CAPACITIES. KAKOULIDES EXPRESSED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN FOREIGN FIRM FOR CONSULTING SERVICES, BUT A-E SURVEY ALSO WORTH INVESTIGATING. TECHNICAL OFFICE REPORTED THAT SEVERAL LETTERS OF INTEREST ALREADY RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN FIRMS.
 SUGGEST YOU AIR MAIL COMPLETE QUALIFYING MATERIALS SOONEST TO US CONSULATE GENERAL AND QUOTATION ON COMMISSION IF POSSIBLE. JACKSON

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